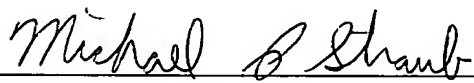


**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Please amend the application as indicated above before examining the above-referenced application. The amendments add a related applications section, correct minor typographical errors and cancel the claims which are pending in the parent application. In addition, the amendment amends the remaining claims so they are in the form they were in at the time the Examiner issued the restriction requirement in the parent application. The applicants request that the Examiner pass this application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

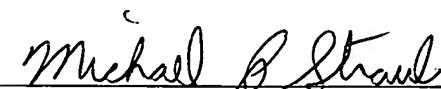
December 9, 2003

  
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**\*\*\*EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATION\*\*\***

"Express Mail" mailing label number: **EV405699713US**  
Date of deposit: **December 9, 2003**

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

  
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